In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for acquiring packet synchronization in a packet type communication network, comprising the steps of:

providing a data packet having a framing format including a preamble split into a plurality of subpreambles of non-interleaved symbols;

for individual subpreamble and for combined subpreamble options, determine the following parameter:

$$\beta_i = \frac{1}{T_i^2} \left\| \int_{t_i}^{t_i+T_i} r(t) \left\| e^{-j\phi_i} \right\|^2 dt;$$

where T_i is the preamble or subpreamble duration in each option, t_i is the preamble or subpreamble start time, and $\hat{\phi}_i$ is the estimated phase shift in each option;

determine s ynchronization u sing correlation with a priori known symbols using the subpreamble or combined subpreamble option which provides the lowest β .

- 2. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein said plurality of subpreambles is two, the two subpreambles being separated in time by other symbols.
- 3. (new) The method of claim 2 wherein said other symbols are one of other data signals or a priori known symbols.



4. (new) A method for acquiring packet synchronization in a packet type communication network, comprising the steps of:

providing a data packet having a framing format including a preamble split into a plurality of subpreambles of non-interleaved symbols;

determining whether any of said subpreambles are have been affected by at least one of impulse noise or burst noise; and

determine synchronization using the subpreambles of said plurality of subpreambles which have not been affected by said at least one of impulse noise or burst noise.

- 5. (new) The method of claim 4 wherein said plurality of subpreambles is two, the two subpreambles being separated in time by other symbols.
- 6. (new) The method of claim 5 wherein said other symbols are one of other data signals or a priori known symbols.

